

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD HEARING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
JULY 6, 2021**

ITEM 7

SUBJECT

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) IMPAIRED WATERBODY LISTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2020-2022 INTEGRATED REPORT AND DRAFT STAFF REPORT.

DISCUSSION

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to identify surface waterbodies that do not meet, or are not expected to meet by the next listing cycle, applicable water quality standards and to prioritize those waters for total maximum daily load development or other corrective action as appropriate (commonly referred to as the “303(d) list”). Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to report on the overall condition of its surface waterbodies (commonly referred to as the “305(b) report”). California combines its 303(d) lists and 305(b) reports into a single “California Integrated Report.”

The 303(d) list requires approval by the State Water Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“U.S. EPA”). Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 305(b) report, which is an informational document that characterizes the state’s general water quality conditions. Generally, the State Water Board does not solicit comments or respond to comments pertaining to the 305(b) portion of the California Integrated Report.

Typically, the Regional Water Boards adopt listing recommendations after a regional public process. The State Water Board then compiles the 303(d) lists approved by the Regional Water Boards into the statewide 303(d) list, which is subject to State Water Board review and approval. For the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report, the State Water Board is administering the public process for the Regional Water Boards.

For the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report, the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego Water Board regions are “on cycle” for assessment. All readily available data and information from waterbodies in these regions were considered. In addition, all readily available data and information from several waterbodies in the Colorado River Basin region were considered as “off cycle” assessments.

POLICY ISSUE

This is a hearing for the State Water Board to receive oral comment pertaining to the proposed Clean Water Act section 303(d) listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies in the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego Water Boards’ regions,

and specified waterbodies in the Colorado River Basin region. The draft 303(d) list and associated draft Staff Report are available at the [Surface Water Quality Assessment Program's webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/).

The State Water Board will not be taking any formal action at the hearing. At a subsequent board meeting and after providing written responses to all timely written comments and oral comments made at the hearing, the State Water Board will consider approving the proposed 303(d) list.

FISCAL IMPACT

The State Water Board and Regional Water Board staff work associated with or resulting from this action will be addressed with existing and future budgeted resources.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

The focus of the hearing is listing and delisting recommendations in the Central Coast, Central Valley, Colorado River Basin, and San Diego Water Board regions. However, as there will be no State Water Board action regarding the listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies during this hearing, there will be no impact to the specified Regional Water Boards at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

No action recommended as this is a hearing to receive oral comments.